

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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"A Partner in Conservation Since 1935"

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Transmitted via Email

April 7, 2005

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-05-38

SUBJECT: LTP – EQIP – APPROVAL AND PREAPPROVAL OF EQIP APPLICATIONS

ACTION DUE BY: APRIL 15, 2005

Purpose. To stress Approving Applications in EQIP.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2005

On April 17, 2005, National Program Managers will evaluate fiscal year 2005 conservation program application status in states. Based on this evaluation, technical assistance and financial assistance will be reallocated between the states.

In order for Minnesota to retain its current level of EQIP funding, or possibly receive additional funds, it is imperative that a high percentage of the current funds be tied to an application in ProTracts. As of April 6, only 55% of Minnesota's EQIP funds were tied to an application.

Offices should strive to have 100% of their allocation committed as Approved Applications in ProTracts by close of business April 15, 2005.

This includes applications of greater than \$100,000 cost-share, which require Regional Assistant Chief review. An alternative to Approve application is to Preapprove the application. While Preapprove does not remove the dollars from the county allocation it does indicate a likely approval and will be considered as an approval.

Questions should be directed to your Assistant State Conservationist (FO) or through the area to Tim Koehler, Assistant State Conservationist.

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: ASTC (FO)
FO
ARC
EQIP State Office Team